

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims in the instant application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method of formatting a computer-readable document comprising a plurality of objects having directly-assigned attributes, the method comprising:

detecting objects, in said computer-readable document, having directly-assigned attributes, wherein attributes in said directly-assigned attributes were assigned individually to objects by a user;

creating, automatically, a conversion style element for every detected combination of directly-assigned attributes in the computer-readable document; and

replacing directly-assigned attributes of each detected object by a reference to one conversion style element wherein said one conversion style element corresponds to said directly-assigned attributes.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said creating a conversion style element further comprises creating a conversion style element for each unique detected combination of directly-assigned attributes.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
opening said computer-readable document in a random access memory of a computer system prior to said detecting operation.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising:  
receiving a request from a user to perform said detecting, creating and replacing operations.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the computer-readable document comprises a text document.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising:  
naming each conversion style element.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of formatting a computer-readable document comprising a plurality of objects having directly-assigned attributes, the method comprising:  
receiving a request from a user to convert directly-assigned attributes to at least one conversion style element;

detecting objects, in said computer-readable document, having directly-assigned attributes, wherein attributes in said directly-assigned attributes were assigned individually to objects by a user;

creating, automatically, a conversion style element for every unique detected combination of directly-assigned attributes in the computer-readable document; and

replacing directly-assigned attributes of each detected object by a reference to one conversion style element wherein said one conversion style element corresponds to said directly-assigned attributes.

8. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:  
a processor; and

a memory storing a method for formatting a computer-readable document comprising a plurality of objects having directly-assigned attributes, wherein upon execution of said method on said processor said method comprises:

detecting objects, in said computer-readable document, having directly-assigned attributes, wherein attributes in said directly-assigned

attributes were assigned individually to objects by a user;

creating, automatically, a conversion style element for every detected combination of directly-assigned attributes in the computer-readable document; and

replacing directly-assigned attributes of each detected object by a reference to one conversion style element wherein said one conversion style element corresponds to said directly-assigned attributes.

9. (Original) The computer system of Claim 8 wherein said creating a conversion style element further comprises creating a conversion style element for each unique detected combination of directly-assigned attributes.

10. (Original) The computer system of Claim 8 wherein said method further comprises:

opening said computer-readable document in a random access memory of said memory prior to said detecting operation.

11. (Original) The computer system of Claim 8 wherein said method further comprises:

receiving a request from a user to perform said detecting, creating and replacing operations.

12. (Original) The computer system of Claim 8 wherein the computer-readable document comprises a text document.

13. (Original) The computer system of Claim 8 wherein said method further comprises naming each conversion style element.

14. (Currently Amended) A computer program product having stored thereon a method of formatting a computer-readable document comprising a plurality of objects having directly-assigned attributes, the method comprising:

detecting objects, in said computer-readable document, having directly-assigned attributes, wherein attributes in said directly-assigned attributes were assigned individually to objects by a user;

creating, automatically, a conversion style element for every detected combination of directly-assigned attributes in the computer-readable document; and

replacing directly-assigned attributes of each detected object by a reference to one conversion style element wherein said one conversion style element corresponds to said directly-assigned attributes.

15. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 14 wherein said creating a conversion style element further comprises creating a conversion style element for each unique detected combination of directly-assigned attributes.

16. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 14 wherein said method further comprises:

receiving a request from a user to perform said detecting, creating and replacing operations.

17. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 14 wherein said method further comprises:

naming each conversion style element.